



NEWS RELEASE

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests & Thunder Basin National Grassland

Date: June 1, 2010

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Forest Service conducting many projects across Laramie Ranger District

(Laramie, Wyo.) June 1, 2010 – Beginning June 15 and lasting into fall, the Forest Service will implement many forest management projects across the Laramie Ranger District of the Medicine Bow National Forest. Currently, 13 projects are scheduled and include fuels reduction, hazard tree removal from roadsides and campgrounds, and tree spraying in campgrounds and administrative sites.

While work will be occurring across the Laramie Ranger District, the bulk of the work will be accomplished in the southern portion of the Snowy Range. Visitors should be aware that this is a very active program of work. Some detours, delays, and temporary and permanent road closures will be necessary. Travel delays and limited recreational opportunities are likely for some visitors. Visitors may encounter log trucks in contract areas and logging machinery along National Forest System Roads. Additionally, campgrounds will be closed during and for 24 hours following tree spraying operations.

Work will generally be accomplished during weekdays; however, some work will occur on weekends and holidays. The Forest Service apologizes for any inconvenience that this work may cause to visitors.

Page two of this news release includes a numbered list of projects and locations. Only the main road locations are identified, but other roads near projects may be affected. Project locations are displayed on a map for easy reference (see enclosure). Please call the Laramie Ranger District office at 307-745-2300 to inquire about current conditions and to check the status of work in the area you plan to visit.

This work is generally being done in response to impacts from the mountain pine beetle epidemic. Efforts will reduce hazards to private land owners, visitors, and Forest Service employees.

In addition, visitors need to be aware that the mountain pine beetle epidemic has increased the risk of falling trees. Trees impacted by the beetles appear red or have no needles. Remember to look up, look down, look around. Please be aware of your surroundings while visiting areas affected by the epidemic.

List of Laramie Ranger District Projects

1. West Devils POL (Products Other than Logs) Timber Sale
NFSR 506, NFSR 512, NFSR 511, NFSR 500, Highway 11
2. Rob Roy FHTR Service Contract
NFSR 500, Highway 11
3. Rush Creek FHTR (Forest Hazard Tree Removal) Stewardship Contract Task Order
NFSR 500, Highway 11
4. Strain Creek Stewardship Contract
NFSR 517, NFSR 513, NFSR 500, Fox Creek Road, Highway 11
5. Lake Owen FHTR Service Contract
NFSR 540, NFSR 517, Fox Creek Road, Highway 11
6. FHTR 512 Road Gray Fox Stewardship Task Order
NFSR 512
7. Somber Hill WUI (Wildland Urban Interface) Fuels Reduction Project
NFSR 512, NFSR 515, NFSR 530, NFSR 544, NFSR 544A, Highway 230
8. FY 2009 Pre-commercial Thinning Contract
NFSR 530, NFSR 516
9. WyColo WUI (Wildland Urban Interface) Fuels Reduction Project
NFSR 501, NFSR 526, NFSR 898C, NFSR 898F, Highway 230
10. Carbon Power & Light Hazard Tree Removal Settlement Sale
Highway 230, NFSR 512, NFSR 543, District-wide
11. Sixmile Stewardship Contract
NFSR 516, NFSR 521, NFSR 898
12. Porter Creek Ranch WUI (Wildland Urban Interface) Fuels Reduction Project
NFSR 898, NFSR 898D, NFSR 516
13. FY2010 Pre-commercial Thinning Contract
NFSR 520, NFSR 519, NFSR 538, NFSR 551

Please note that the project numbers correspond with the numbers on the map.

Enclosure: Map